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## Fetal hemoglobin gene expression in patient with sickle cell disease attending university of abuja teaching hospital

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Fetal hemoglobin (HbF) plays a dominant role in ameliorating morbidity and mortality of hemoglobinopathies. We evaluated the effects of polymorphic markers within the  $\beta$ -globin gene cluster to identify the genetic mechanics that influence HbF on sickle cell patients (n=242). Haplotype analysis was carried out by polymerase chain reaction-restriction fragment length polymorphism (PCR-RFLP) and the framework polymorphism was established by PCR-sequencing, four independent regions of interest were identified: The 5' region of  $\beta$ -LCR-HS2 site, the intervening sequence II (IVSII) region of two fetal (G $\gamma$  and A $\gamma$ ) genes and the 5' region of  $\beta$ -Globin gene. The correlation of these various haplotypes and SNPs with HbF expression and clinical data was studied. Our data suggest strongly that there is a significant association between markers of the  $\beta$ -globin gene cluster and HbF levels in SCD patients attending university of Abuja Teaching Hospital, Abuja. In this study, we showed that among the various polymorphic markers analyzed, only the sequence (AT)xN12(AT)y in LCR HS2 region was significantly associated (p<0.05) with increased HbF levels, suggesting that the  $\beta$ -globin gene cluster exerts a significant effect on HbF in sickle cell patients. This study can improve understanding of the pathophysiology of the disease and aid to increase our ability to predict clinical severity.

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## Haemostatic techniques for laparoscopic management of cornual pregnancy: The double impact devascularization technique

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Cornual pregnancy is a rare form of ectopic pregnancy, accounting for up to 2% to 4% of all ectopic pregnancies with a mortality range of 2.0% to 2.5%. Hemorrhage is a key concern in the management of such pregnancies. Traditional treatment options include a conservative approach, failing which patients are offered surgical options such as cornual resection at laparotomy which carries a high risk of hysterectomy. In recent years newer laparoscopic cornual resection or cornuotomy techniques have been used successfully to achieve better outcomes with fewer complications. We present the double-impact devascularization (DID) technique for laparoscopic management of cornual ectopic pregnancies. This technique permits hemostatic control by compression effect, which in turn allows reduction in procedure-related patient morbidity and mortality. We also provide an overview of other reported methods of hemostatic control used in similar laparoscopic procedures. DID is a useful, safe and minimally invasive technique that can be used in both laparoscopic and open surgical procedures.

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